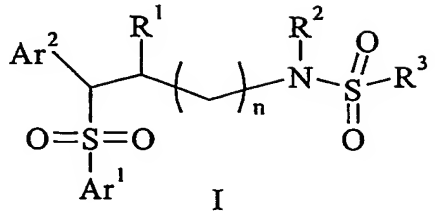
CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula I:



I

where n is 2, 3 or 4;

Ar^1 represents phenyl or heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, CHF_2, OH, OCF_3, C_{1-4}alkoxy or C_{1-4}alkyl which optionally bears a substituent selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OH and C_{1-4}alkoxy;

Ar^2 represents phenyl or heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, CHF_2, OH, OCF_3, C_{1-4}alkoxy or C_{1-4}alkyl which optionally bears a substituent selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OH and C_{1-4}alkoxy;

R^1 represents C_{1-4}alkyl, or together with R^2 completes a pyrrolidine, piperidine or homopiperidine ring;

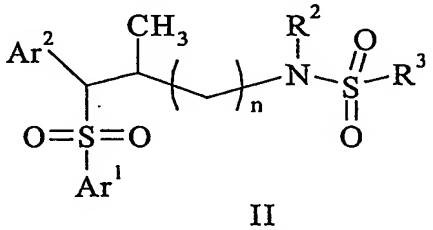
R^2 represents H or C_{1-6}alkyl which optionally bears a substituent selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OH and C_{1-4}alkoxy; or together with R^1 completes a pyrrolidine, piperidine or homopiperidine ring; or together with R^3 completes a tetrahydroisothiazole-1,1-dioxide ring; and

R^3 represents phenyl, naphthyl or heteroaryl, any of which may bear up to 3 substituents selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, CHF_2, OH, OCF_3, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{2-6}acyl, C_{2-6}acyloxy, C_{2-6}acylamino, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino or C_{1-4}alkyl which optionally bears a substituent selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OH and C_{1-4}alkoxy; or R^3 represents CF_3 or a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group of up to 6 carbon atoms optionally bearing one substituent selected from halogen, CN, CF_3, OH, OCF_3, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{2-6}acyl, C_{2-6}acyloxy, C_{2-6}acylamino, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino or

phenyl, naphthyl or heteroaryl, any of which may bear up to 3 substituents selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, CHF_2, OH, OCF_3, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{2-6}acyl, C_{2-6}acyloxy, C_{2-6}acylamino, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino or C_{1-4}alkyl which optionally bears a substituent selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OH and C_{1-4}alkoxy; or R^3 together with R^2 completes a tetrahydroisothiazole-1,1-dioxide ring;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

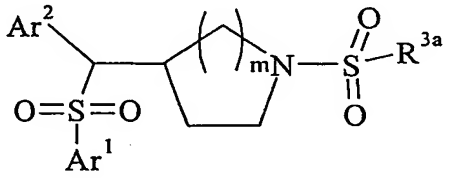
2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula II:



II

where n, Ar^1, Ar^2, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. A compound according to claim 1 of formula III:



III

wherein m is 1, 2 or 3;

R^{3a} represents R^3 which does not form a ring with R^2;

and Ar^1, Ar^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. A compound according to any previous claim wherein Ar^1 is 4-chlorophenyl or 4-trifluoromethylphenyl and Ar^2 is 2,5-difluorophenyl.

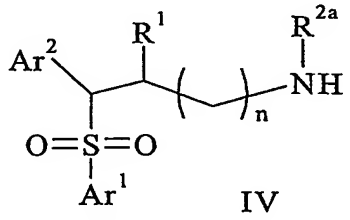
5. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6. A compound according to any of claims 1-4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use in therapy.

7. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

8. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to a condition associated with the deposition of β-amyloid which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A method of preparing a compound according to claim 1 in which R^2 does not form a ring with R^3 comprising reaction of an amine (IV) with R^{3a}-SO_2Cl:

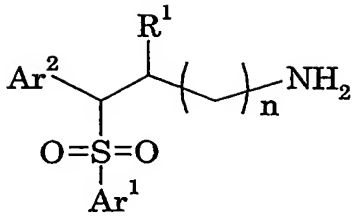


IV

where R^{2a} represents R^2 which does not complete a ring with R^3,

R^{3a} represents R^3 which does not complete a ring with R^2, and n, Ar^1, Ar^2, R^1, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1.

10. A method of preparing a compound according to claim 1 in which R^2 and R^3 together complete a tetrahydroisothiazole-1,1-dioxide comprising reaction of an amine:



where n, Ar^1, Ar^2 and R^1 are as defined in claim 1, with $L\text{-}(CH_2)_3\text{-}SO_2Cl$ where L represents a leaving group, followed by intramolecular alkylation of the resulting sulphonamide nitrogen.